

IF YOU DO NOT
Get Your Paper
Regularly and Promptly
TELL US ABOUT IT

THE MENA WEEKLY STAR

THE OLDEST, BIGGEST AND BEST PAPER IN POLK COUNTY AND READ BY THE MOST PEOPLE.

IF YOU DO NOT
Think Advertising in
This Paper Pays
LET US SHOW YOU

VOLUME XXVII.

MENA ARK., THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1910.

NUMBER 31

Polk County Is the Source of Hundreds of Streams, and Not Even One Flows Into It From the North, South, East or West

DISASTERS IN JAPAN

FLOODS CAUSE HAVOC IN THE VICINITY OF TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA.

HUNDREDS LOSE THEIR LIVES

In Addition to the Dead There Are 600,000 Homeless and Nearly 2,000,000 Without Food—The Government Is Powerless.

Tokio, Aug. 16.—With hundreds killed in the collapsed structures in the east part of Tokio 600,000 Japanese homeless and near 2,000,000 starving in the districts adjacent to Tokio and Yokohama as the result of the floods, prayers for mercy are ascending to Buddha in a thousand temples of Japan.

Government Efforts Futile.

The government's efforts to aid the shelterless hordes of men, women and children have been futile. From Takasaki and Kariwa on the north, bordering the swollen Tonegawa River, to Chiduzoku on the south, the sea has reached out and claimed the land, laying great stretches of water over fertile fields, destroying lives, wiping out homes, demolishing residences and further impoverishing the peasantry. The total number of the dead cannot be ascertained until communication with the interior is restored. The most conservative estimate is three thousand. Rain continues to fall in torrents.

The last reports were that the inhabitants of Karuizawa, the summer resort patronized by Europeans and Americans, had fled to higher ground and that the Tonegawa was eating away the foundation of the dike above Tokio, threatening to loosen the flood upon the higher parts of the city.

Soldiers on Duty.

Thousands of soldiers are on duty on Lower Tokio and in the interior, while men from the warships in the harbor have given aid.

Traffic on the Tokaido (government line) Railway is paralyzed and food and supplies are being moved to the refugees on rafts and small boats.

The extent of the floods, the inaccessibility of the places submerged and the lack of organized relief make the government officials fear that hundreds will die of starvation or exposure before aid comes.

SHIP SINKS AFTER A COLLISION

Thirty-Nine Lives Were Lost When the Spanish Steamer Martos Went Down Off Tarifa.

Gibraltar, Aug. 17.—The Spanish steamer, Martos, founded off Tarifa, on the African coast opposite Gibraltar after a collision with the German steamer Elsa. Thirty-nine persons were drowned, of whom 32 were passengers. The survivors were landed here. A dense fog prevailed at the time of the collision.

Nine of the victims on the Martos were first cabin passengers. The other 23 passengers who perished were in the steerage.

The bow of the Elsa was stove in by the collision and its forepeak filled quickly with water. The steamer, however, managed to keep afloat.

Hotel Men at Minneapolis.

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 17.—The Northwestern Hotel Men's association, tired out with taking care of conventions, have come to this city for a convention of their own, which they begin today and will last three days.

Astronomers Are in Session.

Cambridge, Mass., Aug. 17.—The eleventh annual meeting of the Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America opened at the Harvard observatory today with President Ed ward C. Pickering in the chair.

For
Bibles,
Testaments
and
Prayer
Books

in many sizes, styles
and prices go to

Nall's
Book Store
620 Mena Street
Telephone 182.

Temperature and Weather Conditions in Mena.

Week Ending August 16, 1910.

	Temperature	Precip.	Weather
Wed.	78-86	.08	Cloudy
Thur.	75-87	.72	Cloudy
Fri.	85-87	.76	Cloudy
Sat.	81-88	.74	Cloudy
Sun.	85-89	.77	Cloudy
Mon.	84-90	.70	Cloudy
Tues.	90-94	.82	Cloudy
Average temperature for week.	84.7		
Total precipitation.		5.27	

Weekly Summary.

For week ending Sunday, Aug. 14, 7 p. m.

TEMPERATURES.
Mean maximum 86.
Mean minimum 68.
Average for week 81.
Maximum 97, August 8.
Minimum 65, August 9.

PRECIPITATION.
Total 3.31 inches.
Greatest in 24 hours, 1.09 inches on August 9.

NOT FOR ROOSEVELT

THE EX-PRESIDENT WILL NOT BE CHAIRMAN OF NEW YORK CONVENTION.

STATE COMMITTEE AGAINST IT

It Had Been Planned to Have Him Make a Keynote Speech in Opening Convention—Honor Given to Sherman.

New York, Aug. 17.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt's name was presented for the office of temporary chairman of the Republican state convention at the meeting of the Republican state committee here.

His selection for that honor was lost by a vote of 20 to 15. The organization faction of the committee was against him.

Vice President Sherman Named.

Vice President James S. Sherman was named as temporary chairman of the coming state convention by an unanimous vote, following the defeat of the motion to make Col. Roosevelt the temporary presiding officer.

The committee selected Saratoga and September 27 as the place and time for the convention.

The plan to make Mr. Roosevelt temporary chairman of the convention came from the progressive branch of the Republican party in New York. It was the intention to have the ex-president open the convention and make a "keynote" speech that would express to New York and to the nation the latest word in Republican policies.

They Need Roosevelt.

Many Republican leaders in the state believe that the insurgent sentiment is as strongly developed in New York as in Kansas and Iowa, and that it is only by putting Mr. Roosevelt to the front that the Republicans have any hope of electing their candidate for governor and returning many of their Republican congressmen.

Commenting on the action of the committee in rejecting the name of Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Griseom said:

"I presented the name of ex-President Roosevelt after consulting with him. The place of the temporary chairman was obviously his, not only by virtue of his having been president of the United States, but by the signal services rendered by him to the Republican party in New York state. Mr. Roosevelt was anxious to engage in the political campaign in this state, and his name at the head of the convention would have lent extraordinary prestige to the meeting and been of incalculable value to the party throughout the state.

Voters May Resent Action.

"The action foreshadows a great many primary contests, as it is obvious that those voting to deny him the office of temporary chairman will have to account to the enrolled Republicans of their respective districts for their action.

"There was no question of endorsing or not endorsing the administration. If an effort is made to show that the choice of Vice President Sherman is an endorsement, whereas the choice of Col. Roosevelt would not have been, it must of necessity fall, as Mr. Roosevelt's views regarding the conduct of public affairs by his successor are well known."

R. Dusenbury came down from Eagleton Tuesday and spent Wednesday looking after business and returned home that afternoon.

Dr. W. P. Parks reports the birth of a baby girl, weighing about ten pounds, to Mr. and Mrs. William Weir, August 16.

Sam P. Jones, for several years a farmer near Winslow, this state, is in Mena. Mr. Jones' mission here is to buy farming land in Polk county.

J. W. Hill and granddaughter Jo are here to stay during the fair with Mr. Hill's daughter, Mrs. W. L. Pryor and family.

Walter Pack and Miss Callie Collins of Potter were married Tuesday by Justice of the Peace W. J. Hay.

PROSPERITY BASED ON BETTER FARMING

J. A. Evans Tells of Present Conditions, the Future Outlook, and of Wonderful Results of New Methods.

Last Saturday, there being a teachers' meeting and a picnic scheduled for Egger, at the request of A. E. Wear, county agent for farm demonstration work, J. A. Evans, state agent for Arkansas and Louisiana, drove to that place.

By unanimous consent of the teachers, at about 10:30 a. m., they granted Mr. Evans the privilege of addressing those present. After some pleasant introductory remarks about schools and education, Mr. Evans stated that it was not unusual to find prejudice against what was termed "book farming," which was without good reason, as farming should properly be placed under two heads, or in two parts. First, the science or theory of farming, which should be taught in schools, and second, the art of farming, which must be learned by actual experience. In other words, a complete farmer can only be turned out by a combination of science and practice.

True Prosperity.

The speaker said that the only true prosperity is mass prosperity, or average prosperity. That a community might have a half dozen or more millionaires, men with unlimited wealth, but that would not indicate a prosperous community. But when every man in a community was prosperous, was able to have common conveniences, educate his children and live well, that community was really prosperous.

In Arkansas, he said, more than 60 per cent of the people were farmers. Agriculture lies at the foundation of all prosperity, and, therefore, to teach why one piece of land produces a good crop and another don't, and to teach the way to find out the properties of the soil and how to make it productive, is important.

Up to the present time the tendency has been to deplete the soil of farms, a practice that must be reversed.

In the past 100 years the population of this country has doubled four times, and already the production and consumption of foods and of clothing almost meet. There is no reason to doubt but that the rate of increase in population will keep up, and statistics show that within fifteen years at the present rate, production and consumption will meet—there will be no surplus. Then the question will be, how to feed the millions if the farms are to get poorer and poorer.

Wearing Out Lands.

Mr. Evans said that it is wholly unnecessary to "wear out lands." Such a thing should not be. He said that land is not wholly ours, but belongs to our children and our children's children, on into the future, and that it is an unworthy man who robs himself and steals from his children by depleting the fertility of the soil.

It is the purpose of the government, said the speaker, to teach how to avoid this waste. The four constituents of a fertile soil are humus, nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, without any one of which in proper amount any land will cease to yield.

The first in importance is humus, which is formed by the decomposition of vegetable matter, such as leaves, grass, etc. This is lost by cultivation, when something is not provided to plow under and take the place of that taken out by the crops.

Next in importance is the nitrogen, upon which all life in every form must feed; no sprout can ever start without it. It is easy to tell if land is deficient in nitrogen. If stalks, leaves and foliage put forth a rank, strong growth, it is plentiful; if spindling, pale and small, it is deficient.

Commercial Fertilizers.

In the Southern states alone, \$50,000,000 yearly are paid for commercial fertilizers, one-half of which is for nitrogen alone, which is valued at 20 cents per pound. And, Mr. Evans stated, it is not necessary to buy a single pound. He said that it is estimated that in the air over every acre of land at 20 cents a pound, there existed \$3,000,000 worth of this precious element, or \$120,000,000 over every 40 acre field.

And the all-wise creator, the speaker said, seemed to have known that we would waste the soil, and had provided a family of plants with an especial power to draw down and put in the soil the nitrogen in the air. These plants are called legumes or pod-bearers, such as peas, beans,

clover, etc. On any land where one of these crops grows one year, there will be better crops the next year.

How Nature Produces Fertilizer.

Mr. Evans described the method nature used to gather the nitrogen and place it in the soil. It is through the work of bacteria, little living things, so small that millions could congregate on the head of a pin. These gather along the roots of the plants, extract nitrogen from the air that is contained in the soil, and convert it into a solid form, forming the while small white, pulpy knots called nodules, each of which is the home of millions of the bacteria. These bacteria he termed the "slaves" of the plant for which they worked.

The Washing of Lands.

Mr. Evans spoke of the distinction possessed by Polk county in the fact that all streams flowed from it, and none toward it. He realized the advantages of this, but that it also had a disadvantage, in that these streams continually were carrying away of our best soil, a thing it is necessary to stop so far as possible. He suggested three methods, each of which would help.

First—Deeper plowing.

Second—Winter cover, cover crops, the keeping always of something growing on the lands, especially of a rolling character. He suggested oats, wheat, winter clover—anything to stay on land and keep it from washing off.

Third—Hillside ditching and terracing.

The speaker pointed out to the teachers their interest in better farming—that only with prosperity among the farmers could they expect better wages.

Demonstration Farms.

The work of the demonstration farms is to promote the better preparation of the soil, the use of better seed and better methods of cultivation.

In Arkansas there now are 1436 demonstration corn farms. A careful record is kept by the government as to the results on each one, and this record shows that the average production is 15.3 bushels per acre above the average of the state. There are planted to corn in Arkansas 2,600,000 acres. If each of these, then, was farmed in the same way as the 1436 demonstration farms, the result would be 39,780,000 more bushels of corn, which at 50 cents a bushel would put in the pockets of the Arkansas farmers \$19,890,000—a very respectable sum surely.

But the demonstration work does not stop with corn.

There are 2,000 cotton patches farmed the same way, under the direction of agents of the government. The records show that these acres averaged 396 pounds more cotton than the average for the state. There are one million acres planted to cotton in Arkansas. Under the improved methods, then, these acres would have produced 396,000,000 pounds more than the present state average yield, which at as low as 10 cents a pound would give the cotton farmers \$39,600,000 extra as pocket change, or on cotton and corn, they would have \$78,780,000 more than now—more than a million dollars a year additional for each county in the state.

Boys' Corn Clubs.

Mr. Evans said he hoped to see a big Boy's Corn Club in Polk county next year. He stated that most of the boys who had participated last year were in knee pants—school boys—and yet they had, right on single acre's of their father's farm, raised from 40 to 87 bushels per acre by following instructions while the average yield of the state was but a little over 18 bushels per acre—a result that should make the fathers see the value of the lessons taught.

At the close of Mr. Evans' remarks, James Lyles, a farmer present, spoke with utmost earnestness for the cause of education in better farming, expressing the conviction that there was certainly something wrong with the present methods that made the farm so unattractive to the boys.

The rain broke up the picnic and Mr. Evans had no further opportunity to address the farmers, and with Mr. Wear took a drive through the country to examine the crops.

Found Roads Bad.

Only one of the two automobiles S. A. Arnold and W. P. Clark ordered from Hot Springs to be used in carrying passengers too and from the fair grounds succeeded in getting here. It arrived Wednesday afternoon with a broken spring, but was repaired and is ready for service today. The other car gave up the trip and turned back the other side of Black Springs.

W. A. Worthington of Cove spent Wednesday night in Mena.

THE 14TH ANNUAL FAIR HAS OPENED

Polk County Products On Display--People From All Parts Gathering in to See the Sights and Join in the Celebration.

Another year has rolled around—it is fourteen now—and the people of Mena and Polk county are celebrating the coming of railroad facilities to this section of the state—and the founding of Mena.

The farmers are gathering in and bringing the best of the crops to make an exhibit that will probably excel anything in past years.

The fruit display on the start is very promising.

The first event among the amusements was the trotting race, the leading event of which was a two-thirds mile trot, in which Alice Daw (owner Oscar Bush), Frank W. (owner James Thornton), and Santalena (owner Carl Kiene) were entered, each horse driven by its owner.

The first heat was won by Frank M. and the second by Alice Daw. In the second heat Santalena cut her left fore quarter, and the third heat was not driven. The best time was in the second heat, which was made in a 2:24 gait.

At 11:20 Prof. Elmer Beard, the tight-rope walker and a contortionist, gave a free exhibition.

At 1 o'clock in the afternoon, with a whoop and a yell, the bronco busters and wild steer ropers opened their exciting performance.

At 3:30 the ball game between Mena and DeQueen started, and from the line up an exciting game was looked

for. The rain, however, spoiled chance of game.

Thursday the same program was carried through as to-day. Racing at 9 a. m., public speaking at 10 a. m., rope-walking and contortionist act at 11:30 a. m., roping contest at 1 p. m. and base ball game at 3:30 p. m.

Thursday the speaking hour was devoted to the Arkansas Land Congress, and addresses were made by Senator John P. Logan and L. C. Wilson, vice president of the Land Congress.

BAND MADE A HIT

New Uniforms Worn Wednesday First Time—Everybody Pleased With Excellent Music.

When the W. O. W. band appeared on the streets of Mena Wednesday everybody turned out to listen and to look—for never had they heard music that sounded sweeter nor seen an aggregation of musicians that looked better.

Fine new uniforms were worn for the first time—coats of rich maroon, trimmed in black, black caps and blue serge trousers. They looked as natty as you please, and Mena is certainly proud of the W. O. W. band. It will play each day of the fair.

MENA BOOTLEGGER SENTENCED

Albert Wilson to Ft. Leavenworth Pen for Selling Whisky on Sunday.

Albert Wilson, the negro bootlegger who was arrested several months ago by U. S. Deputy Marshal J. L. Holt, has been sentenced to serve one year and one day in the Federal penitentiary at Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

When Deputy Marshal Holt arrested Wilson he took him to Ft. Smith and turned him over to U. S. Chief Marshal May. When taken before a special grand jury he admitted his guilt, and pleaded guilty to the charge of selling whisky on Sunday when taken before Judge Rogers of the U. S. Court. He will be taken at once to begin his term.

This case is one that was worked up by Marshal Holt. He spent a great many weeks gathering evidence before the arrest was made.

OWNER OF DAVIS BLOCK IN TOWN

W. P. Harman Will Move Family Here About September 1.

W. P. Harman of Kansas City, who exchanged some apartment houses in Kansas City for the Davis Block, arrived Tuesday. He is very much pleased with Mena and is making arrangements to move his family here by September 1, so he can get located and get his children in school at the beginning of the term.

He will return to Kansas City in three or four days.

Back From the West.

Bernard Dunman, who has been in New Mexico and Western Texas for the past three months arrived Tuesday and was glad to get back to Mena. He had intended to go on to California after looking over New Mexico and Western Texas, but decided after seeing what he did, that Mena and Polk County was all right for him.

A marriage license has been issued to Byrd T. Smith and Mrs. Lily Suggs of Wickes. Mr. Smith is 27 years of age while his bride is only 17. She was married the first time when only 13 years old. Her first husband is dead.

A. J. Strickland of Board Camp was in Mena Monday, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. C. I. Masters of Hartshorn, who left for her home this afternoon, after a pleasant visit at her old home.

Mark P. Olney, Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Arkansas, returned Saturday from Chicago, where he has been attending the 31st Priennial Conclave of the Knight's Templar of the United States.

Wanted to purchase—Two fresh cows. Inquire at Star office. 132 30-t

THREE KILLED BY POISONED WHISKEY

Fourth, Believed Responsible, Supposed to Be Another Victim—Result of Drunken Spree—Wood Alcohol in Liquor.

Fort Smith, Aug. 16.—Word was received here late yesterday afternoon that three men died in terrible agony at Heavener, Ok., about five o'clock this afternoon, as a result of drinking whiskey poisoned with wood alcohol. The dead are: Jack Hughes, a watchman; J. B. White, a grocer's clerk; Joe Heavener, a farmer.

A painter named Lewis who does not live at Heavener, but who has been working there for some time and who is charged with having put the wood alcohol in the whiskey, left on a Kansas City Southern train at 5:47 o'clock, and it is supposed that he is also dead, as it is said that he drank more of the death potion than any of the others.

The town is in a state of the greatest excitement and the only step that has been taken so far toward the apprehension of Lewis, if he still lives, is a message sent to the conductor of the train on which he left the city. The message was sent to Stilwell, Ok.

Hughes was unmarried and was a nightwatchman at the Kansas City Southern roundhouse. White was a clerk in a local grocery store and is survived by his wife and two children. Heavener lived a few miles from the city. He was part Indian and owned considerable property.

Hughes and White died at nearly the same hour, about 5 o'clock. Heavener died a little later.

The four men had been drinking heavily for several days, and Lewis is said to have been a "dope fiend." Opinion is divided here as to whether Lewis put wood alcohol in the liquor with the intention of poisoning the men or whether he was too intoxicated at the time to know what he was doing.

COTTON SCHOOL HERE

Henry K. Watkins to Open One in Tobia Building on Monday, August 22.

Henry K. Watkins, who came here last week from Nashville, has rented the Tobia hall above Paton's undertaking parlors and has arranged to open a cotton school there on Monday, August 22. Mr. Watkins has had a long experience in the cotton business and is well fitted to teach the grading and stapling of cotton. He has several thousand samples of every grade and staple to use in his work.

Mrs. Watkins and her little son are here with Mr. Watkins.

ON ONE FARM 44 YEARS

T. W. Roberts, 74 Years, Old is a Wonder for Suppleness.

T. W. Roberts, who has owned and lived for 44 years on one farm a few miles this side of Mt. Ida, is visiting his son Fred in Mena. Mr. Roberts will be 74 years old October 11 next, and challenges any man of his age in a contest in suppleness. One of his stunts, and one that might few men of one third his age can do, is to take a cane in both hands and jump over it between his hands, backwards and forwards. Or he'll try at jumping or footcaring. Mr. Roberts served in a Texas cavalry regiment which fought under General Price. He lost his wife about four years ago and has rented his farm and visits about with his sons and daughters, all but one of whom live in Western Arkansas. He expects to remain in Mena about a month.

AMONG MENA FRIENDS

Attorney General, and Mrs. Norwood and Children Here for the Fair.

Attorney General Hal L. Norwood, Mrs. Norwood and children arrived in Mena from Baker Springs Tuesday and are stopping at the Antlers. They will spend the balance of the week visiting with their many friends, and on Friday, the third day of the fair, Attorney General Norwood will deliver an address at the fair grounds.

Deaths.

One of the 2-week-old twins of Mr. and Mrs. Jake LaGasse died Tuesday morning. The other died Wednesday morning. They were buried that afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Odd Fellows' cemetery. The funeral services were conducted at the home of the parents.